

Arts Education Consortium Blossoms

Linda Bellon-Fisher
WSAC Arts in Education Program
Manager

“Wonder, delight, reflection, imagination, curiosity, cooperation....essences of arts education. Just a frill? Not so!” says Gail Weiss representing the Whatcom County Arts Education Community Consortium.

It’s not surprising that the first Washington State Arts Commission’s (WSAC) Arts in Education grant awarded to a public school/university/community partnership would be in Whatcom County. Nor is it surprising that in just the second year of funding the Whatcom County Arts Education Consortium has blossomed in unforeseen directions.



Western Washington University students work with Mount Baker School District 5th graders.

History

Whatcom County schools have a history of success in obtaining and using wisely WSAC’s Arts in Education Program grants. Mount Baker School District, under the leadership of Arts Coordinator Gail Weiss, is a shining example, having received WSAC’s first Free Rural Residency in dance, followed by a regular Residency Grant each year, as well as three Curriculum Grants.

In 1999, considering the benefits of a K-12/higher education partnership, Gail Weiss visited Associate Professor Gaye Green at Western Washington University (WWU) and learned that their thinking was

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The Washington State Arts Commission cultivates a thriving environment for creative expression and appreciation of the arts for the benefit of all.



Working Together in Challenging Times

Kris Tucker
WSAC Executive Director

“I will do everything in the power of my office to ensure that the state continues to make a strong investment in art.”

Governor Gary Locke at the Governor’s Arts and Heritage Awards, October 2001

It’s been a rough start for this new millennium. An earthquake, transportation gridlock, passenger planes dissecting office towers, drastic changes in the state economy and dreary employment rates. A few years ago, some predicted Y2K; no one predicted this.

That makes for a rough start for the 2002 Legislative Session, which faces a budget dominated by a \$1.2 billion hole for the current biennium (through June 2003). That’s a problem for this agency as well.

In the Governor’s budget for FY03, released December 2001 and now in the hands of the Legislature, WSAC’s budget is cut 10%, and two staff positions are abolished. We know the Governor faced tough decisions. Some agencies are targeted for elimination; the state work force is to be leaner, programs more efficient, priorities clarified. The final budget will be decided by the Legislature, possibly as early as March, for the fiscal year that begins July 2002.

Washington is one of more than 40 states currently facing a budget crisis; for most states – and for the nation as a whole – these woes follow a decade of economic expansion. During that

decade, we’ve seen significant growth in the arts across the state. But the budget for this agency has not kept up with inflation, population growth or demand. Since 1999, we’ve received two budget increases. Even so, our budget stands at just 27% above 1990 levels.

The state economy affects the arts in other ways as well. We are encouraged to learn from arts organizations across the state that most funding

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Strategic Plan Progress

WSAC received 20% of its funding request for the strategic plan, **The Arts Work for Washington**, from the 2001 Washington State Legislature.

At its November 2001 quarterly meeting, the Commission voted to revise target dates and budget amounts to be more realistic – yet still ambitious. (See the revised plan on our website or call our office for a copy.)

The Commission is committed to preserving the spirit of the strategic plan and honoring the input of the more than 1,000 constituents who contributed to its creation. Reality dictates a more reserved, yet no more thorough, implementation of the plan.

With proposed funding cuts for the coming fiscal year, beginning July 2002, additional re-prioritizing may be needed. To keep updated on WSAC’s strategic plan, watch for our newsletter and visit www.arts.wa.gov.

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SMART LINKS

ART NOW is an online clearinghouse of artistic responses to September 11 and its aftermath and a discussion forum for artists on issues of creative expression in times of crises:
www.ncac.org/projects/art_now/main.html

Spokane's Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture celebrated its grand opening recently:
www.northwestmuseum.org/

Artists will find resources for career development and creative growth at:
www.ArtistHelpNetwork.com

Art. Ask For More. (see article to right)
www.artsusa.org

GOOD NEWS

Arts Day Proclaimed by Governor

Recognizing the arts as necessary to our quality of life, Governor Gary Locke has declared February 12, 2002, as Arts Day in the state of Washington. An annual event that regularly draws more than 200 arts supporters to Olympia for one day during the legislative session, this year's Arts Day has been expanded to celebrate the contributions of the arts in communities across the state. The theme of Arts Day 2002 is **Washington Arts – At the HeART of the Community**.

In his proclamation, the Governor recognizes that the arts are essential to education, the economy, and livable communities. (Full text available at www.arts.wa.gov)

The Washington State Arts Commission (WSAC) will hold its next public, quarterly meeting during Arts Day, from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. on February 12 at The Washington Center for the Performing Arts, 512 Washington Street SE, Olympia. The Commission will resume their meeting the next day from 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at their offices, 234 East 8th Avenue, Olympia.

Art. Ask For More. Campaign Launches

In a nationwide survey, Americans for the Arts (AFTA), the country's leading arts information clearinghouse and advocacy organization, found that while parents believe the arts are important to their child's education, they feel the amount of current arts education is sufficient. AFTA's **"Arts. Ask for More."** public awareness campaign, developed in conjunction with the Ad Council, hopes to help parents understand and articulate why more art is needed in our schools.

AFTA is hosting a website (www.artsusa.org) for parents. The Cultural Council of Greater Tacoma and the Seattle Arts Commission, state sponsors of the campaign, have joined with the Washington State Arts Alliance and WSAC to host a statewide website with additional tips and local resources. You'll find this link on the national website.

Governor's Arts & Heritage Recipients



Pictured left to right: The 2001 award winners - Salvador Baldovinos, Yakima; Carol Hassen, Yakima; Hazel Pete, Oakville; Governor Locke; Tatjana Krynytzky, Issaquah; Harry Applewhite, Artist Trust, Seattle; Gail Tremblay, Olympia; and Barbara Courtney, Artist Trust, Seattle.

Grant Opportunities Available

Several WSAC grant programs are open this spring, including:

- Arts in Education: Community Consortium, Curriculum, and Artists in Residence programs;
- Folk Arts Fellowship and Apprenticeship programs;
- Grants to Organizations: Project Support and Organizational Support Programs;

as well as the Art in Public Places Artist Resource Bank competition.

Grant deadlines are listed below in the calendar; for more information, call (360) 753-3860 or visit www.arts.wa.gov.

New Staff Join WSAC

Alice Taylor joins the Art in Public Places staff as a Project Manager, filling the position vacated by Steve Thompson. Alice worked most recently at the City of Olympia and before that as Arts Supervisor for the City of Lynnwood.

A new position was created through the Lila Wallace Reader's Digest grant that WSAC received last year. Mayumi Tsutakawa has been hired as Arts Program Manager, and will oversee the planning and implementation of the five-year arts participation project. She was Director of External Relations at the Wing Luke Asian Museum, Seattle, from 1998-2001, and served as a member of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Arts Task Force in 1998.

calendar

February

- 12 ArtsDay in Washington State
- 12/13 WSAC Commission Meeting in Olympia
- 21 AIE Consortium Grant deadline

March

- 7 Project Support Program grant deadline
- 21/22 Community Arts Workshop, Spokane
- 28 AIE Grant deadlines: Artists in Residence and Curriculum programs

April

- 5 Folk Arts Fellowship and Apprenticeship applications due; Organizational Support Program grant deadline

May

- Art in Public Places Artist Resource Bank competition opens
- 12/13 Community Arts Workshop, Pasco
- 28 WSAC Commission Meeting in Mount Vernon

Grants to Organizations - FY 2002 Recipients To Date

The Awards Program is the primary grant-making division of the Commission, offering financial support to Washington’s nonprofit arts organizations through operating and project grants in four distinct categories. For the current funding cycle, Fiscal Year 2002 (July 2001 - June 2002), funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and state appropriations totaling \$1,425,220 are budgeted. To date, just over \$1.2 million has been awarded; recipients of these grants are listed below.

For more information about grants to organizations, visit www.arts.wa.gov.

Cooperative Partnerships

The Commission initiates partnerships for services delivered statewide, regionally, or nationally in this category.	Artist Trust, Seattle	67,785
	Arts Network of Washington State, Tacoma	15,000
	Arts Northwest, Port Angeles	12,000
	Centrum, Port Townsend	101,000
	National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Washington, D.C.	10,975
	Western States Arts Federation, Denver	26,098
	232,858	

Institutional Support Program

In this category, the state’s largest producing and presenting organizations receive operating grants from \$10,000 to \$50,000. These organizations offer a regular season of professional performances or exhibitions, have full-time professional staff, employ artists at professional scale, and have a minimum annual cash income of at least \$500,000. Acceptance is based on a peer panel review of each organization’s artistic quality and administrative practices. This program is open to new applicants only by action of the Commission.	A Contemporary Theatre, Seattle	19,990
	Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue	13,383
	Broadway Center for the Performing Arts, Tacoma	13,776
	The Capitol Theatre, Yakima	12,409
	Children’s Museum, Seattle	10,000
	Copper Canyon Press, Port Townsend	10,544
	The Empty Space Theatre, Seattle	11,606
	Henry Art Gallery, Seattle	18,770
	Intiman Theatre, Seattle	16,896
	Meany Hall for the Performing Arts, Seattle	12,221
	Northwest Chamber Orchestra, Seattle	10,776
	On the Boards, Seattle	11,541
	Pacific Northwest Ballet Assn, Seattle	34,159
	Seattle Art Museum, Seattle	44,138
	Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle	19,397
	Seattle International Children’s Festival, Seattle	10,000
	Seattle Opera Association, Seattle	39,264
	Seattle Repertory Theatre, Seattle	26,743
	Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Seattle	47,659
	Spokane Interplayers Ensemble, Spokane	10,498
	Spokane Symphony Orchestra, Spokane	15,184
	Tacoma Actors Guild, Tacoma	12,335
	Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma	15,841
	Tears of Joy Theatre, Vancouver	10,000
	Washington Center for the Performing Arts, Olympia	12,038
	Whatcom Museum of History/Art, Bellingham	10,000
	Wing Luke Asian Museum, Seattle	11,069
	480,237	

Organizational Support Program

Arts organizations with a cash income of at least \$75,000, may apply in April 2002 for operating funds in OSP. This is a highly competitive category, with a two-year funding cycle. Current grants range from \$3,000 to \$7,500 to 88 organizations. Applications are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary panel of arts professionals that make funding recommendations to the Commission for final action. In FY2003 the minimum grant will increase to \$4,000, the maximum to \$10,000.	Allegro Baroque and Beyond, Spokane	4,000
	Allied Arts Council of Yakima Valley, Yakima	4,000
	Allied Arts of Whatcom County, Bellingham	3,200
	Arts Council of Snohomish County, Everett	6,000
	Auburn Symphony Association, Auburn	3,000
	Bainbridge Arts and Crafts, Bainbridge Island	7,500
	Bainbridge Island Arts & Humanities Council, Bainbridge Island	6,000
	Bellingham Festival of Music, Bellingham	6,000
	Bremerton Symphony Association, Bremerton	3,200
	Carter Family Puppet Theater, Seattle	4,500
	Chinese Arts & Music Association, Seattle	3,000
	City Art Works/Pratt Fine Arts Center, Seattle	6,000
	Columbia Basin Allied Arts, Moses Lake	4,500
	Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts, Longview	4,000
	Coupeville Arts Center, Coupeville	6,000
	Cultural Council of Greater Tacoma, Tacoma	4,000
	The Cutter Theatre, Metaline Falls	4,000
	Early Music Guild, Seattle	4,000
	Earshot Jazz Society, Seattle	7,500
	Edmonds Arts Commission, Edmonds	4,500
	Enumclaw Arts Commission, Enumclaw	3,200
	Ethnic Heritage Council, Seattle	3,000
	Festival Dance & Performing Arts Association, Moscow/Pullman	6,000
	Harlequin Productions, Olympia	3,200
	Icicle Creek Music Center, Leavenworth	4,000
	Jack Straw Foundation, Seattle	6,000
	Juan De Fuca Festival of the Arts, Port Angeles	4,500
	Kent Arts Commission, Kent	6,000
	Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland	3,000
	Kirkland Performance Center, Kirkland	7,500
	Ladies Musical Club, Seattle	3,000
	Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center, Seattle	4,000
	Lincoln Theatre Center Foundation, Mount Vernon	4,000
	Literary Celebrations, Seattle	4,000
	Living Voices, Seattle	4,000
	Maryhill Museum of Art, Goldendale	3,500
	Methow Arts Alliance, Twisp	3,350
	Mid-Columbia Regional Ballet, Richland	3,000
	Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner	6,000
	Music Works Northwest, Bellevue	4,500
	Nine One One, Seattle	4,000
	Northwest Asian American Theatre, Seattle	3,000
	Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle	6,000
	Northwest Girlchoir, Seattle	4,000
	Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, Spokane	6,000
	Northwest Sinfonietta, Tacoma	3,000
	Olympia Film Society, Olympia	3,000
	Olympic Ballet Theatre, Edmonds	3,000
	Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival, Eastsound	3,200
	Orcas Theatre & Community Center, Eastsound	3,000
	Pat Graney Performance, Seattle	4,000
	Philadelphia String Quartet, Seattle	3,200
	Pied Piper Entertainment, Everett	3,000
	Pilchuck Glass School, Seattle	4,000
	Port Angeles Fine Arts Center, Port Angeles	4,500
	Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra, Port Angeles	4,000
	Seattle Arts & Lectures, Seattle	7,500
	Seattle Chamber Music Festival, Seattle	4,500
	Seattle Fringe Festival, Seattle	4,000
	Seattle Jazz Orchestra, Seattle	3,200
	Seattle Men’s Chorus, Seattle	6,000
	Seattle Mime Theatre, Seattle	4,000
	Seattle Shakespeare Company, Seattle	3,200
	Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, Seattle	4,000
	Seward Park Art Studio, Seattle	3,200
	Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council, Shoreline	6,000
	South East Effective Development, Seattle	4,000
	Spectrum Dance Theater, Seattle	4,500
	Spokane Art School, Spokane	4,000
	Spokane Arts Commission, Spokane	4,000

Spokane Civic Theatre, Spokane	4,000
Studio East Training for the Performing Arts, Kirkland	3,000
Tacoma Arts Commission, Tacoma	7,500
Tacoma Little Theatre, Tacoma	3,200
Tacoma Opera, Tacoma	3,200
Tacoma Philharmonic, Tacoma	3,000
Tacoma Symphony Orchestra, Tacoma	3,200
Three Dollar Bill Cinema, Seattle	3,200
Unidentified Moving Objects, Vashon	4,312
Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver	3,000
Vashon Allied Arts, Vashon	6,000
Victory Music, Tacoma	4,000
Village Theatre, Issaquah	4,000
VSA Washington, Seattle	6,000
Walla Walla Symphony Society, Walla Walla	3,200
Washington State University Museum of Art, Pullman	3,200
Whatcom Symphony Orchestra, Bellingham	3,200
Yakima Symphony Orchestra, Yakima	4,000
374,862	

33 Fainting Spells, Seattle	1,000
Acoustic Sound, Tacoma	1,000
American Jewish Committee, Seattle	1,000
Arts and Visually Impaired Audiences, Seattle	4,000
Arts Council of Ferry County, Republic	500
ArtsWest, Seattle	1,000
Asia Pacific Cultural Center, Tacoma	4,000
Belle Arte Concerts, Seattle	1,000
Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra, Bellevue	1,000
BetterBiscuitDance, Seattle	1,000
Bishop Center Performing Arts, Aberdeen	1,100
Book-It Repertory Theatre, Seattle	1,000
Camerata Musica, Richland	1,200
Cappella Girls Chorus, Port Orchard	1,000
Cascadia, The Methow Music Association, Twisp	2,000
Cascadian Chorale, Bellevue	1,000
Central District Forum for Arts & Ideas, Seattle	2,000
Chinese Opera R&D Association, Lakewood	3,500
Cinema Seattle, Seattle	1,500
City Cantabile Choir, Seattle	1,500
City of Light Performing Arts/Seattle Choral Co., Seattle	1,500
City of University Place/Curran Apple Orchard, University Place	600
Columbia Choirs Association, Kirkland	750
Connoisseur Concerts Association, Spokane	1,000
Crispin Spaeth Dance Group, Seattle	1,000
Dance Gallery of Bellingham, Bellingham	1,000
Deer Park Arts Commission, Deer Park	1,000
Downtown Kennewick & Columbia Drive Association, Kennewick	4,000
Duvall Arts Commission, Duvall	1,000
Eastern Wash University Press, Spokane	2,000
El Centro de la Raza, Seattle	1,500
Ellensburg Public Library, Ellensburg	2,000
The Esoterics, Seattle	2,000
Filipiniana Arts & Cultural Center, Shoreline	1,000
Gallery Concerts, Seattle	1,000
The Jazz Project, Bellingham	1,500
Lake Chelan Bach Feste, Chelan	4,000
Lakewood Sister Cities Association, Lakewood	900
Lingo dancetheater, Seattle	1,000
The Merc Playhouse Society, Twisp	3,000
Methow Music Festival Assoc, Winthrop	4,000
Mid-Columbia Symphony Society, Richland	1,500
Music of Remembrance, Seattle	1,350
Normanna Male Chorus of Tacoma, Gig Harbor	500
North West Childrens Theatre, La Conner	3,000
Northwest Chamber Chorus, Seattle	1,000
Northwest Designer Craftsmen, Seattle	2,000
Northwest Film Forum, Seattle	1,500
Northwest Stone Sculptors Association, Clinton	1,000
Northwest Symphony Orchestra, Seattle	1,500
NTHEATRE, Rainier	1,000
Olympia Symphony Society, Olympia	2,000
Omak Stampede, Omak	600
One World Theatre, Seattle	1,200
Opus 7, Kenmore	1,500
Over the Water Hurdy Gurdy Association, Shoreline	1,000
Performing Company of Pioneer Dance Arts, Sequim	900
Phinney Neighborhood Association, Seattle	1,000
Pierce County Playwright Festival, Tacoma	1,000
Prabha Rustagi Memorial Trust, Seattle	1,250
Rainier Chamber Winds, Bainbridge Island	2,000
The Raven Chronicles, Seattle	2,000
Seattle Baroque Orchestra, Seattle	1,500
Seattle Chamber Players, Seattle	1,500
Seattle Peace Chorus, Seattle	1,000
Seattle Pro Musica, Seattle	1,500
Seattle World Percussion Society, Seattle	1,000
Six Bridges Arts Association, Veradale	2,000
Slighe nan Gaidheal, Seattle	1,000
Space.City, Seattle	1,000
Spokane Chamber Music Assoc., Spokane	1,200
Town of Steilacoom, Steilacoom	1,500
Story People of Clallam County, Port Angeles	850
Tacoma Youth Symphony Association, Tacoma	1,000
Taproot Theatre, Seattle	1,000
Touchet Valley Arts Council, Dayton	600
Tudor Choir, Seattle	1,500
Upper Skagit Bald Eagle Festival, Concrete	3,000
Velocity Dance Studio, Seattle	1,000
Washington East Opera, Kennewick	1,500
Washington/Idaho Symphony Assoc., Pullman	1,000
Water Music Festival, Seaview	2,000
Watershed Art, Leavenworth	4,000
Youth Theatre Northwest, Mercer Island	1,500
Zephyr, Spokane	1,500
129,500	

Total Grant Awards to Date

1,217,457

OSP continued

Project Support Program

Small arts organizations and community service groups may apply for matching grants for specific public arts events. These project grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$4,000. There are two deadlines each year, one in March and one in October.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

Funding for the Washington State Arts Commission and its programs is provided by the state of Washington and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Whatcom Co Consortium, cont. from page 1

in sync. WWU applied for and received a \$12,113 Arts Education Community Consortium Grant. Weiss said, “What began as a small group of like-minded people from WWU Art Department, Mount Baker School District, Allied Arts of Whatcom County, the Museum of History and Art, the Children’s Museum, and a few community-minded individuals, is now a rapidly expanding network with roots spreading far and wide.”

Consortium’s First Year

In their first year of Consortium Grant funding, the partners brought visual art instruction by WWU pre-service teachers and professors, as well as professional artists, to Mount Baker and Bellingham school districts. Additionally, students visited the partnering museums and WWU’s Outdoor Sculpture Collection, and the 1st Children’s Gallery Walk, featuring student art and a gala evening hosted by the Whatcom Museum, was a huge success.

Expanding Roots

When word got out about these efforts, parents joined the consortium in such numbers that a consortium branch called the Bellingham Arts Literacy Link (BALL) grew. The BALL advocates with Bellingham School District, are developing a written communication network, and are planning an Arts Education Forum.

Due to the consortium’s rapid expansion, a consortium flow chart was created, a visioning committee is developing a long-range plan, and Allied Arts of Whatcom County is beginning a fund-raising campaign this winter to maintain consortium stability.

Impressed by the Whatcom partnership and committed to arts education professional development for teachers, artists, and pre-service teachers, the WSAC AIE Program approached Weiss and Green to partner on organizing the Arts Education Professional Development Think Tank.

Arts Education Professional Development Think Tank

The Think Tank partners set three goals for the two-day event held in Bellingham on May 31 and June 1, 2001—development of: a participatory arts education training model; a cooperative plan for arts education training in Whatcom, Skagit, San Juan, and Island Counties; and a model for WSAC to take to other geographic areas of the state. As participants, the partners selected a group of 45 higher ed and K-12 educators, teaching artists, WWU pre-service teachers, and arts administrators. Outcomes included a regional arts education planning committee and fruitful connections made between arts and education leaders, school superintendents, WWU deans and arts professors.

Blossoming Programming

This year the Whatcom County Consortium received a \$19,000 WSAC Arts Education Community Consortium Grant. The WWU sculpture tours were expanded to include lessons on public art selection taught by pre-service teachers, and Mount Baker students will be creating public art with a local stone sculptor. Exciting additions to Consortium membership include the WWU Dance Department and the Arts Institute Planning Committee formed at the Think Tank.

Read more about Whatcom County’s arts education success story on WSAC’s web site www.arts.wa.gov or contact Gail Weiss at gweiss@mtbaker.wednet.edu. For information about the Arts Education Community Consortium Grant or other WSAC Arts in Education Program grants and services contact Linda Bellon-Fisher at LindaB@arts.wa.gov or 360-586-2418.



WWU Professor Sharon Antholt teaches a sculpture workshop.

Students admiring sculpture on Western Washington University’s campus.

QUICK FACTS

WSAC’s Arts in Education Program

Mission

To open doors to all Washington’s youth by emphasizing the arts as elemental to basic education and introducing individuals to their own creativity.

In the 2000-2001 school year:

The Residency Program

Served 12,735 students, 520 teachers, 10,920 parents and community members

The Arts Curriculum Grants

Assisted 11 school districts, potentially affecting 48,263 students

The Arts Education Community Consortium Grants

Served 119,643 students, teachers, and community members in 30 areas around the state

The Free Rural Residencies

Served 860 students, 209 teachers and community members in eastern Washington rural communities

The Arts Education Professional Development Think Tank

Served the arts and education communities in Whatcom, Skagit, Island, and San Juan Counties



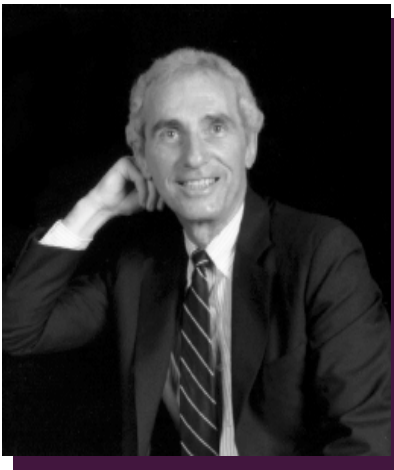
Western Washington University public art tour conducted by pre-service teachers.

Michael Hammond Responds

Michael Hammond took the chairmanship of the National Endowment for the Arts on January 22, after being unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate.

Since confirmation hearings were not held, Senator Edward Kennedy asked Mr. Hammond to respond in writing to several questions; excerpts of his answers follow.

How do you feel that the federal role of the Arts Endowment differs from the role of the state entities and local agencies? ...Are there any changes that you would suggest? If the opportunity to serve as chairman of the Arts Endowment comes to me, I will make it a high priority to become very familiar with our state and local arts agencies, their leaders and the important work they do. I will explore with them ways in which their partnership with the Endowment can be strengthened and broadened. They have played a vital role in carrying out Challenge America and other important Endowment programs. Many of them have been extremely



successful in promoting the arts in their own locales. I see them as already valuable allies for the Endowment, and I would hope that these alliances can be made even more productive for our citizens everywhere.

What do you think are the highest programming priorities for the agency?

...the Endowment must, I believe, work to create conditions favorable to our professional artists - conditions in which they will be inspired to fulfill their deepest artistic aspirations, encouraging all of us to understand ourselves and one another in continuously new ways... I will also try to direct the Endowment's efforts toward enlivening the artistic culture of the nation from the ground up by strengthening all forms of educational activity in the arts, especially among the young.

For more information about Chairman Hammond, including his biography, visit the NEA's website at www.nea.gov.

Working Together in Challenging Times, cont. from page 1

sources are coming through this year as promised. Yet we know some contributions have been diverted to other causes. Endowment earnings are below projections. And some local governments are trimming their arts budgets as well. Although ticket sales are still strong in many venues, gallery sales are down.

Leveraging Results

These budget projections are profoundly discouraging. Without the necessary resources, we will be unable to implement this plan fully or on time. Yet we are a strong, lively and optimistic agency. Our strategic plan provides a solid framework, clear priorities, and viable strategies. We are respected statewide, and have the strong support of Governor Locke and the legislature.

Last month, I visited The CREATE Place, a lively arts center in Newport, Washington, that has been supported by WSAC funding since the beginning. CREATE provides a variety of programs – art exhibits, community theater, meeting space and arts education programs. Farther north, I visited the Cutter Theatre in Metaline Falls. Again this year, CREATE and the Cutter Theatre are working with Pend Oreille County's three school districts, the Kalispel tribe, local businesses and others on a WSAC-supported Arts Education Community Consortium project. This project has identified and trained local artists to work in the schools, trained classroom teachers in the Essential Academic Learning Requirements in the Arts, provided local employment, brought the school districts together, and greatly improved relations between tribal and non-tribal residents. As arts organizations, CREATE and the Cutter Theatre also receive WSAC funding from our Organizational Support program as an investment in the stability and programming of these organizations. On my trip, I met with school superintendents and school children, parents and board members. Two high school students shared the book of poetry they had published. A superintendent reflected on helping teachers work effectively with artists in teaching core subjects. A choir of elementary students gleefully sang holiday carols. And a new resident to Metaline Falls said it was the Cutter Theatre – creative programming and warm welcome – that convinced her and her husband to retire in that small community.

On that visit, I saw the specific, far-reaching outcomes of WSAC's investments:

- The arts make our communities better places.
- The arts are part of a basic education, and art students do better in school.
- Cultural experiences attract tourists, and increase tourist spending.
- The arts help us explore diversity, understand differences, express a broad heritage.
- The arts matter to kids, school officials, artists, retirees, parents, elected officials, citizens. WSAC funding can leverage big results even in small places.

Positioning For Growth

If the legislature approves budget cuts as proposed by the Governor, it will soon be WSAC's turn to make tough decisions. We will be identifying our options for getting through the current crisis. Even more important, we will be setting strategies that will position us well for the future. This is the time to create a strong foundation for real growth when the right circumstances arise. That means we must:

- Stick to our mission and our strategic plan, while creative and flexible about the strategies
- Help people tell the story and spread the word: the arts matter to our communities and our state.
- Build good partnerships, and be a good partner with our constituents, the governor and legislature, and communities across the state.

With your help, we will work toward long-term results that make a real difference. kt

There is no better deliverance from the world than through art; and a man can form no surer bond with it than through art.

Goethe
Elective Affinities, 1809

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Washington Arts - At the HeART of the Community

The Washington State Arts Commission (WSAC) cultivates a thriving environment for creative expression and appreciation of the arts for the benefit of all. This is accomplished not only through dissemination of project and operating grants, but by outreach to all areas of the state, including underserved communities. For each of the success stories described below, we have dozens more that demonstrate the value of the arts to our economy, communities and quality of life. By helping us to express, connect, and learn, the arts in Washington enrich our lives in unique and meaningful ways. Celebrate the arts!

1. Artists Connect With Nature Leavenworth

Watershed Art, recipients of a \$2,000 Project Support Grant and a \$2,000 Challenge America grant, invited 14 internationally renowned nature artists to Leavenworth to paint, sculpt, photograph and draw the Wenatchee River Watershed during several weeklong sessions throughout 2001. They hoped to bring to the public a greater awareness and emotional connection to the unique cultural and natural history of the area. The grant monies will be used to produce a powerful visual and audio record of the event in the form of a 22-minute video. The video will show how the artists approached their work, their thought processes, how they interacted with each other, their various methods, and how each artist chose to translate their experience at the watershed into a final piece of art. Participants in the event included Tony Angell, Robert Bateman, David Barker, Art Wolfe, and Mary Randlett. For more information, visit their website at www.watershedart.org



Photo of sculptor Thomas Jay. Copyright © 2001 Mary Randlett. All rights reserved.



Photo by James Westwater

2. Kids, Cameras and Classics Spokane

Photochoreography – beautiful music illustrated with equally wonderful photographs — thrilled nearly 5,000 Spokane area fifth graders in November 2001 in the Spokane Opera House. Everyone participated in the visual and musical experience with the Spokane Symphony, as photos taken by more than 40 local students from 16 schools were used by James Westwater to “choreograph” *America the Beautiful*.

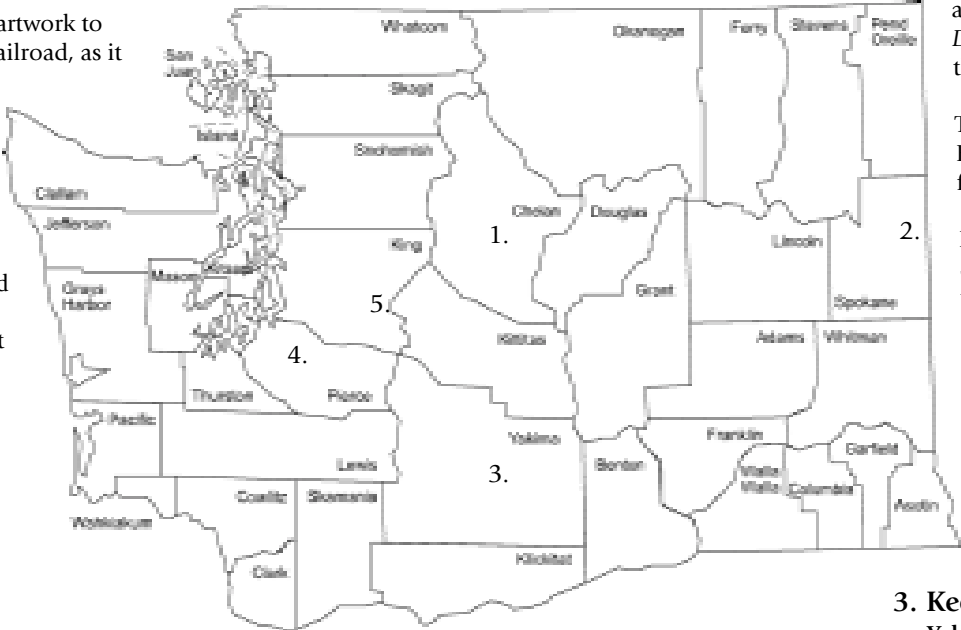
The Spokane Symphony Education Department provided digital photography training, a pre-concert preparation package for each teacher, and six digital cameras for schools that did not own one. The student photos became the backdrop to the concert and a fifth grade student narrated *Yankee Doodle Variations*, which showcased each of the instrument families.

The concert was supported by an Arts in Education Community Consortium Grant from the Washington State Arts Commission.

For more information about the Spokane Symphony's educational programs, visit www.spokanesymphony.org/.

5. Linking Art to History in Rural King County Snoqualmie Pass

The community of Snoqualmie Pass is using artwork to help interpret the history of the Milwaukee Railroad, as it enhances the Visitor's Kiosk that is part of the John Wayne Pioneer Trail. WSAC's Community Arts Development Program linked the community to this unique funding opportunity as part of the Millennium Legacy Trails, a partnership between the White House Millennium Council, the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, and the Rails to Trails Conservancy. Numerous national, state and local partners rounded out the project funding and coordination.



FY 2001 At a Glance

WHAT WE DO:
The Washington State Arts Commission receives state, federal and some private funding for specific projects. Through grants and services to non-profit arts organizations and artists, WSAC promotes the arts as basic education; facilitates the acquisition of artwork for the State Art Collection and maintains the collection; provides technical assistance; funds operating and project grants; and helps preserve, present and protect the traditional arts of the many diverse cultures in our state.

HOW FUNDS WERE SPENT:
For fiscal year 2001 (July 2000 - June 2001), \$3,390,520 was distributed to 645 organizations and individuals out of 727 applicants, which funded 61,883 events and served over 11 million individuals. Of these grants, 222 served underserved communities and individuals in the amount of \$839,486.



Photo by Richard LaLonde

4. Community Selects Public Art Orting

When Orting's new Ptarmigan Elementary was built, the school formed a diverse committee to select an artist for its one-half of one percent for artwork award. A student, a parent, faculty, staff and the district's superintendent chose artist Richard LaLonde to create public art for the school. His creation, *Garden of Life*, was installed in 2000. Made of fused glass and measuring 102 x 86 inches, the piece dominates the hallway outside the library where students can enjoy and appreciate LaLonde's craft.

The state public art collection, administered by WSAC's Art in Public Places Program, is one of the country's oldest, largest, and most valuable, with an acquisition value of approximately \$15 million. More than 4,300 artworks grace the collection, located throughout the state in universities, community colleges, state agencies, and public schools.

3. Keeping Traditions Alive in the Valley Yakima

Salvador Baldovinos, a master musician of the Michoacan harp tradition, has worked for years to teach and perform the music of his homeland in Yakima and throughout the state. Through WSAC's Folk Arts programs, he has served as a master artist to young apprentices, ensuring that Mexican vocal and instrumentatl traditions are passed on to a new generation. With his band, Los Campesinos de Michoacan, the artist has performed for diverse audiences and recorded his music. In 2001, he received a Governor's Heritage Award in honor of his dedication to share and preserve this cultural treasure in Washington.



Photo by Willie Smyth



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